

*PENTREF
BAPTIST
CHAPEL*



The Chapel at the Heart of Newbridge



(Sunset over Knapplands – Photo courtesy of Elsa Harflett)

**The Newsletter
Of Newbridge-On-Wye
Baptist Church
February 2019**

FROM THE MINISTER

People tell me that: 'the days are getting longer'. This is not true, there are still only twenty-four hours in a day. I know that what they mean is that the hours of daylight are getting longer, but in these days of artificial light when what we do is not confined to the hours of day-light, having more hours of daylight does not seem to help getting all the things that we want/need to do done.



I am also told that as you get older time goes more quickly – this again is not true, there are still sixty seconds in every minute and sixty minutes in every hour, but I understand what people mean – when I was younger there always seemed to be enough time and even time to spare. On occasions there was even enough time to waste, but now the time seems to speed by, and so much of what I want to do is left undone.

We are now at the end of January, at the beginning of the month some of you will have made New Year Resolutions, some of you will look back with a sigh and the words 'failed again', others will be pleased with the way things are going and still others will have completely forgotten about them until being reminded about them by this letter. I have never been very good at New Year Resolutions. Because of this, some years ago, I made a New Years Resolution not to make any more New Year Resolutions – I have successfully been able to keep this one so far. But now as February approaches and so much of what I intended to do in January remains undone I am more conscious than ever that time is a limited resource that needs to be used wisely. It is too late now to make a New Year's Resolution, but with only two months to go before the clocks go forward (and yet again someone steals an hour from our day!) I know that I need to organise my time better in order to waste less of that precious resource.

This should not be too difficult, I have been on time management courses, I have even taught some, but the truth is as I write, that I am already feeling guilty about the things that I intended to do in January, and feeling the pressure of the things that I will need to do in February.

Maybe all the extra time that is given us by the invention of artificial light gives us a false idea of what we can really achieve in a day.

The Bible encourages us to use time wisely. I think I will measure my success at that, not by the quantity of things that I get done but by the quality of life that I get from the way I use time.

Steve

COFFEE MORNING



**First Wednesday
of the month
10:30 – 12ish**

**The next Coffee Morning is on Wednesday February 6th
We will supply the coffee and tea – the cakes and biscuits
and you can come along to supply the good humoured company.**

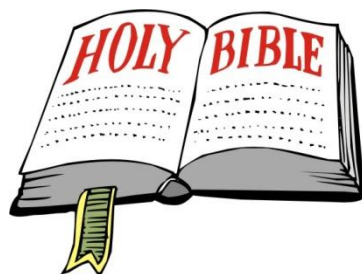
**No charge but donations gratefully received in aid of:
The local branch of the Parkinson's Society**

Bible Study

On Tuesday mornings a group of us get together to look at a particular part of the Bible. This is an informal gathering where all are encouraged to take part. We are not a bunch of academics debating the finer points of a text, but a group of people who want to hear what God has got to say to us through His word.

In February we will be continuing to look at the gospel of John.

If you would like to come along we will be meeting on Tuesday 12th & 26th at 10:30am, in the Baptist Church hall.



A few of us go to lunch in Rhayader after the meeting. You would be more than welcome to join us. (2 courses for only £5.50)

JANUARY AT PENTREF – Clive Barrett.
SUNDAY SERVICES.

For the communion service on the first Sunday morning of the New Year, Rev Steve continued in Colossians for his sermon. He concentrated on four points: 1). Forbearance: we should practice forbearance with each-other. 2). Forgiveness: Christians should be people who forgive, but also forget - the second can be more difficult. 3). Forbearance and forgiveness come from our love for one-another. 4) If the peace of Christ rules in our hearts, we will, because of our love, practice forbearance and forgiveness. In the evening Rev Steve returned to his “Pictures of the Church” series. He spoke about the church as God’s Vineyard. He compared an Old Testament parable found in the book of Isaiah to a parable told by Jesus. The main points that he emphasised were that the vineyard belonged to God who looked after it, protected it and expected his tenants to bear good fruit.

On the second Sunday morning Rev Steve began with a missionary theme, first showing a short film about the work and witness of the Baptist Missionary Society in Thailand. In his main sermon he took as his topic the relationship of those inside the church, with those outside and mentioned the following points: 1). Be wise in the way you act towards outsiders and pray that God will give us wisdom. 2). Make the most of every opportunity, which is a definite challenge to us. 3). Always be prepared to give an answer - are you “prepared” to do something in both senses of the word. The ultimate aim of Christians should be to tell people everywhere about Jesus, and to do this with gentleness and respect.

On the second Sunday evening Rev Steve again delved into his “Pictures of the Church” series. The picture that he spoke about was the church as an olive tree; God as the tree trunk and roots, and we as the branches. Because of unbelief the people have not accepted Jesus who was sent, turning their back on God, who had saved them in the past (Old Testament). Jesus came to save everyone who believed in him. Those who believe are nourished by the sap coming up through the roots, trunk and into the branches. He brings holiness into our lives, by the power of the spirit we are being transformed. Paul, in his letter to the Colossians, wants people not to be arrogant or show pride, because they are saved by the grace of God.

On the third Sunday morning Rev Steve continued with his theme in Colossians. Being strengthened in all power, Paul in his letter walked in that strength. We are called to do something in the work of the kingdom, there being different tasks and duties for individuals in church. The strength comes from our relationship with God. Paul talks about his own ministry, and Rev Steve posed the rhetorical question “Why do we listen to sermons? 1). We listen in order to hear the word of God. 2). How do we respond to what God is saying to us? 3). The work of the preacher is to proclaim Jesus, and the job of the congregation to respond. God admonishes (points the right way, as well as the finger of wrong), telling us off because he loves us.

In the evening he continued with his “Pictures of the Church”, centred around The Last Supper and the power of the Communion, which was taken later in the service. The disciples are instructed to prepare the table for the supper. Similarly, Jesus promised to prepare a place for us (I have gone to prepare a place for you... in my father's house there are many rooms).

On the fourth and final Sunday of January, the guest preachers were the Rev Paul Tarling of Llandrindod Wells in the morning, who spoke on the need for unity within the church, and Mrs. Heather Jones from Rhayader in the evening, who spoke about trust.

COFFEE MORNING.

During the January Coffee Morning, the remaining money was raised to reach the target of £100 for charity. A cheque will be presented to a representative of the local branch of Cancer Research at the next Pentref Coffee Morning on Wednesday February 6th between 10:30am and 12noon. At that morning's event, donations will be received towards the next chosen charity which is Parkinson's (South Powys Branch).



PENTREF MEN'S MEETING – Report by Clive Barrett

At the January meeting of the Men's Fellowship, the opening devotions were given by Pentref Minister Rev Steve Wallis. He referred to the Acts of the Apostles, and Paul who travelled as far as Cyprus, where he preached the gospel. He added that men from Cyprus and Cyrene spread the gospel message to everyone wherever they travelled. This led appropriately into the talk and power-point presentation which followed.

The speaker for the morning was member Clive Barrett, who showed pictures and spoke about his bowling holiday to Cyprus in 2018. The trip included free days for visiting tourist sites.

He was thanked for his talk by long standing Pentref member John Lloyd, who added that he had certainly learned a lot about Cyprus.

The Men's Fellowship

The next meeting will be on

Tuesday February 19th

At 10:30am

Speaker: Rev Steve Wallis

'What on earth are HERMENEUTICS'

A brief introduction

Sing

Along

Fancy a sing along to some of the old favourite hymns and the opportunity to learn some of the newer Christian songs? then come along to Cartref on Tuesday 19th February at 7:00pm, where some of us from the chapel will be gathering to practice some of the songs we will be using in services in the coming weeks.



Tea, Coffee and biscuits, maybe even a cake will be supplied



**Thursday Afternoons
2:00pm – 4:00pm**



Do you, paint, draw, sculpt, knit, crochet, do macramé, or anything else creative? If you do, you would be more than welcome to come along and join the group. Come along to share your skills in a group where we learn from each other.

Refreshments provided.

More Info: Vanessa 01597 860185

SERVICES AT PENTREF



Sunday 3rd February 10:30am	Rev Steve Wallis (Communion)
5:00pm	Rev Steve Wallis (Pictures of the Church)
Sunday 10th February 10:30am	Rev Steve Wallis
5:00pm	Rev Steve Wallis (Pictures of the Church)
Sunday 17th February 10:30am	Mr Trevor Grant (The Leprosy Mission)
5:00pm	Rev Steve Wallis (Communion) (Pictures of the Church)
Sunday 24th February 10:30am	Rev Paul Tarling
5:00pm	Mrs Monica O'Dea

The Pentref Baptist Chapel newsletter comes out each month and is delivered to every home in the village. If you are part of an organisation in the village or if you are organising an event in the village we are more than happy to publicise it in the Newsletter. Please send copy to Steve at;

steveoncomputer@aol.com

The deadline for the March edition is: Friday 22nd February

FEBRUARY AT ALL SAINTS



**Sunday 3rd February
No Service**

**Sunday 10th February 11:00am
Morning Worship**

**Sunday 17th February
No Service**

**Sunday 24th February 11:00am
Holy Communion**

**Midweek Communion
On the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 10:00am.**



OpenDoors

Serving persecuted Christians worldwide

OPEN DOORS PRAYER AFTERNOON

TUES FEB 26TH

2.30-4 PM

ST FRANCES CENTRE

All are most welcome to come along and join us for this informative time, to find out about praying for our persecuted fellow Christians around the world.



The World Watch List 2019 should be available at this meeting and is invaluable for keeping us up to date with news from the 50 countries around the world with the worst persecution of Christians. Let me know if you can't make the meeting but would like a free copy.

I said last month that I would write a bit more about the 'Standing Strong

Celebration Day', which Mike Thomas and I went to in November. Two of the speakers were Hannah, from North Korea and Brother Simon, a South Korean pastor. Hannah and her family were sent to a labour camp for being Christians. Her story is well worth reading and is on the Open Doors website (www.opendoorsuk.org). It's an incredible story and shows God's power at work. Simon and his team reach 100,000 Christians through radio broadcasting, food and other relief aid, and safe houses in China. His life has been threatened by North Korean secret agents in the past. He said that surveillance is increasing but the North Korean church is becoming stronger and could possibly number over 300,000. These Christians know the power of prayer in the face of human impossibility and, often, imprisonment.

We were shown a North Korean Bible, hot off the press and written in a modern and manageable style to suit the young people of North Korea who cannot now read the old Korean language. These bibles are already being secretly distributed. Please consider buying a lovely tiny devotional book that is produced in the style of a small, plain Korean Bible. These are £10 and each purchase will provide one Bible for a Christian in North Korea. I can order one if you're interested.

Louise Tarling (822615)

"Channels the spirit of the artist...
a sweet little tale" *The Guardian*

UNTIED ARTISTS PRESENT

Noson Allan
Night Out



THE BOY

WHO BIT

PICASSO

"The childlike joy of Picasso's painting is brilliantly conveyed and kids - like mine - will come out learning that art is fun"
Stewart Lee

When Picasso comes to stay anything can happen...

An interactive theatre show
for ages 4 and up!

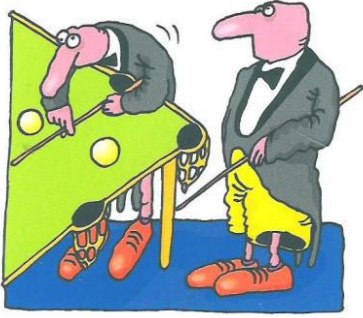
Friday 15th February at 6pm (doors open 5.30pm)
Newbridge on Wye Village Hall Tickets: £5/ £3
Available from 01982552854 / on the door.
All profits go to the pupils at Newbridge Primary

Photography: G. & J. Design: graham@untied.co.uk

Inspired by the book by Anthony Browne &
Originally co-produced with Oxford Playhouse.

untied artists

This show is sponsored by the Arts Council of England



CHARITY POOL TOURNAMENT NEW INN

Thursday 7th March 7:00pm

The local communities Annual Pool Tournament is now underway to help Dai Leeton raise even more money for the local Parkinson's Group. There will be a raffle draw and an auction on the evening.

Raffle Prizes

**£20.00 Voucher for the
Gwystre Inn**

**£20.00 Petrol Voucher
John Powell's Garage**

Whisky

Prosecco

And many more

Tickets available from the
New Inn

Auction

**Weekend Break
at Penstowe Manor,
Cornwall**

Stilt Walking Lessons

Handy-man for a Day

Learn to Drive a Tractor

Sunday Lunches

Indoor Bouncy Castle Hire

Servant for the Day

Spring Clean

And many more

Donations for the raffle and the auction are still welcome
If you have anything that you would like to give please let
David Leeton or Siân at the New Inn know.

Hope to see you all on Thursday 7th March for a great
evening